31. MORE ON BUTTERFLIES FROM NEPAL

During the course of five-months spent with a party of mountaineers under the leadership of Major H. W. Tilman, D.S.O., M.C., in Central Nepal in 1950, I made a small collection of butterflies for the British Museum. The 25 species included in the following list by no means represent the total number of varieties seen, but the list may be of some interest as an addendum to Colonel Bailey's 'Notes on Butterflies from Nepal' which was recently published in the Journal (Vol. 50: 64-87, 281-298). That the collection is so small is mainly due to the fact that I was primarily concerned with collecting botanical specimens, but is also due to the fact that, in my limited experience, butterflies in the hills are generally encountered flying at high speed down steep hillsides!

The area visited would certainly repay a visit by an experienced entomologist for it seemed to be particularly rich in such orders as

Orthoptera, Coleoptera and Hymenoptera.

With a single exception all the localities quoted, above 10,000 ft., are in a dry zone, the upper valley of the Marsiyandi River being protected by the Annapurna Himal which rises to over 26,000 ft., and so effectually protects it from the monsoon.

I am indebted to Mr. A. G. Gabriel of the British Museum for the

identifications.

PAPILIONIDAE

1. Papilio philoxenus Gray f. typ.

Evans 2.15.

Common among bushes at the edge of fields. Thonje, 6,500 ft., 24-5-50.

2. Papilio janaka Moore f. typ.

Evans 4.4.

Common among bushes at the edge of fields. Thonje, 6,500 ft., 26-5-50.

3. Papilio machaon everesti Riley.

Evans 4.29.

Sparingly on bare open stony slopes and among dwarf juniper. Jargeng Khola, 15,500 ft., 5-7-50.

4. Parnassius epaphus sikkimensis Elwes.

Evans 13.3.

Sparingly on steep grassy slopes. Khangsar, 15,000 ft., 27-7-50.

5. Parnassius hadrwickei f. correctus Bryk.

Evans 13.4.

Frequent on open grassy slopes. Jargeng Khola, 14,000 ft., 3-7-50; Khangsar, 15,000 ft., 24 & 27-7-50.

6. Parnassius delphius lathonius Bryk.

Sparingly on steep rocky hillsides at great altitudes. Thorongse, 18,000 ft., 6-8-50.

PIERIDAE

7. Colias dubia ssp.

Evans 16.8.

Sparingly on grassy slopes. Khangsar, 14,500 to 15,000 ft., 27-7-50.

8. Colias fieldii Menetr. f. typ.

Evans 16.11.

Plentiful in grassy places. Manangbhot, 11,500 to 14,500 ft., July to September.

9. Colias arida ssp.

Evans?

On grassy hillsides. Jargeng Khola, 14,500 ft., 2-7-50; Khangsar, 16,000 ft., 29-7-50.

SATYRIDAE

10. Lethe baladeva Moore.

Evans 3.2.

Common among bushes at the edge of fields. Thonje, 6.500 ft., 24-5-50.

11. Lethe nicevillei Evans.

Evans 3.9.

Dudh Khola, 11,500 ft., 23-8-50.

12. Raphicera moorei Butl. f. typ.

Evans 4.6.

Frequent in grassy clearings in forest. Kupar, 8,000 ft., 18-8-50.

13. Paroeis sikkimensis Stgr.

Evans 10.2.

Sparingly among juniper scrub on steep hillsides. Khangsar, 15,000 ft., 24, 27 and 29-7-50.

14. Aulocera brahminoides Moore.

Evans II.I.

Sparingly on open hillsides among juniper scrub. Khangsar, 14,500 ft. and Marsiandi Valley, 12,000 ft., 27 and 30-7-50.

15. Callerebia scanda optima Walk.

Evans 13.5.

Field on the edge of forest. Thonje, 6,700 ft., 30-8-50.

NYMPHALIDAE

16. Vanessa kashmirensis aesis Fruh.

Evans 36.10.

Sparingly between 12,000 and 15,000 ft., all specimens much worn. Jargeng Khola, 14,500 ft., 2-7-50; Khangsar, 14,500 ft., 27-7-50. Also in June.

17. Argynnis childreni Grey f. typ.

Evans 39.2.

Frequent in mixed forest. Marsiyandi Valley, 9,000 ft., 31-8-50.

18. Argynnis lathonia issaea Moore.

Evans 39.8.

Fairly frequent. Marsiyandi Valley, 8,200 ft., 25-5-50 and Khangsar, 14,500 ft., 24-7-50 and 13,500 ft., 10-9-50.

19. Argynnis eugenia Eversm.

Evans 39.11.

Fairly frequent. Khangsar, 14,500 ft., 24-7-50 and 16,000 ft., 29-7-50.

20. Melitaea arcesia irma Higgins.

Evans 40.5.

Common. Manangbhot, 11,500 to 16,000 ft., at end of July.

LYCAENIDAE

21. Celastrine hugelii Moore.

Evans 20.19.

Common. Among bushes at the edge of fields. Thonje, 6,500 ft., 24-5-50 and 30-8-50, and Thangja, 6,700 ft., 20-8-50.

22. Zizeeria maha Koll.

Evans 22.2.

Among bushes at edge of fields. Thonje, 6,700 ft., 30-8-50.

23. Albulina near pheretes Hubn.

Evans ?

Common in grassy places. Manangbhot, 12,500 to 16,000 ft., July.

24. Polyommatus stoliczkana Feld.

Evans 24.2.

Common in grassy places and among junipers. Manangbhot, 11,500 to 15,000 ft., July.

25. Lyceana phleas Linn.

Evans 35.2.

Common locally in grassy places. Manangbhot, 12,500 to 14,000 ft., July.

GADDEN'S CLOSE, RINGWOOD, HANTS, ENGLAND, March 15, 1953.

D. G. LOWNDES, Colonel.